

Town Council Meeting: 9 November 2020 7:30 PM



Town of Garrett Park
PO Box 84
4600 Waverly Avenue
Garrett Park, MD 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council
Public Teleconference

November 9, 2020

NOVEMBER 2020 MINUTES

Call to Order (7:35 PM) – Mayor Kacky called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Present on the call were Councilmembers Gerilee Bennett, Mario Grande, Stephen Paczkowski, Phil Schulp. Councilmember Simons was not in attendance. Also, on the teleconference were Interim Town Manager Debi Sandlin, Town Assistant Elizabeth Henley, Town Support Joanne Schmader and several residents.

Approval of Agenda (7:36 PM) Unanimous approval.

Approval of Minutes (7:36 PM) The September and October minutes were approved with changes.

Presentations by Residents (7:44 PM) None.

Action (7:41 PM)

- Appointment of Arboretum Committee members by Mayor Kacky: Kathy Benjamin's term was extended six (6) months. Her term will expire May 1, 2021; Adam Darkins will complete Andrew Fidler's term to expire in February 2023. Councilmember Bennett motioned to approve the recommendations; Councilmember Grande seconded. The motion was approved.

New Business (7:47 PM) None.

Town Updates (7:50 PM)

- **SRTS Project – Mayor Kacky.** The sidewalks and outfall are finished. A punch list has been created with a few items that still need to be fixed by Patriot: repair cracks in the concrete curbs and sidewalks; correct an ADA slope issue on the sidewalk ramp at the top of Clermont across from Montrose; re-set some detectable warning pads; and put sealant into the joints between the sidewalk panels.
- **(7:58 PM) Stormwater – Councilmember Grande.** The Town's contracted civil engineer (Clark-Azar) is currently drafting a scope of work to address the erosion in the swale at the end of Rokeby. The scope of work will include base work for erosion mitigation and two options for consideration: 1) replace the existing foot path with a prefab pedestrian bridge; or 2) replace the existing pipe with a larger pipe. Clark-Azar is also working on the storm drain piping inventory.
- **(8:05 PM) Archives – Councilmember Schulp** highlighted recent initiatives that our Town Archivist has been working on: digitizing the Brunson Bridge Collection; adding materials to the Archives website; revising the Committee's page on the town website; updating the Archives listing with the Montgomery County Volunteer Center; adding two virtual volunteer opportunities (transcription and research); and working with Montgomery County Public Schools to get the opportunities approved for Student Service Learning (SSL) hours.

Times listed are approximate. Please allow extra time if you plan to attend for a specific item.

Call the Town Office at 301-933-7488 or email managerdebi@garrettparkmd.gov for information

Posted September 10, 2020

Town Council Meeting: 9 November 2020 7:30 PM

- **(8:10 PM) Arboretum – Councilmember Bennett** stated the Arboretum Committee is moving forward with the fall planting schedule and the pruning/removal of trees. The committee is working on updating the ordinance to be consistent with the Comprehensive Arboretum Plan. She presented an overview of the Committee’s plan to renew the Outfall area of Porcupine Woods near Clermont Avenue that was disturbed during the SRTS stormwater stabilization project. The Committee’s estimate to implement the plan is within the FY21 budget for Arboretum plantings. The Committee will work with the Town Manager to procure services to implement the plan and will continue to keep the Council apprised of progress.
- **(8:15 PM) Land Use – Councilmember Paczkowski** plans to propose a change in the zoning ordinance from “front setback has to be 30 feet from any street” to “30 feet from any front street and 15 feet from any side street.”
- **(8:19 PM) Historic Preservation and Town Hall Renovation – Councilmember Paczkowski** mentioned ongoing reviews for a front porch renovation on a Chevy House on Clermont and a first-time use of solar panels on a house on Montrose in the historic district. He continues to work on a concept plan to renovate Town Hall and will have a preliminary square foot cost to present for future consideration. He noted the Town will need to decide if there is interest in a small- or large-scale renovation. Mayor Kacky recommended creating a working group to assist Councilmember Paczkowski.
- **(8:25 PM) PEPCO LED Lights – Councilmember Schulp** mentioned he and Interim Town Manager Debi Sandlin discussed with a PEPCO official PEPCO’s plan to change out the Town’s induction lights with LEDs. PEPCO would only be replacing lights on wooden poles. Mayor Kacky and Council members agreed to allow Councilmember Schulp discretion to decide how to proceed based on what he thought would be in the best interest of the Town.
- **Town Manager’s Financial Report & Town Manager’s Report (8:38 PM) – Interim Town Manager Debi Sandlin** stated October Revenues, Operations, and Capital Budgets are at expected levels. The Town has received \$6,473.44 in reimbursement funds from FEMA for Covid-19 expenditures. Additionally, the Maryland Municipal League notified Ms. Sandlin that Garrett Park is a Challenge Winner for exceeding its 2010 census rate by the highest participation rate. They will provide the Town with a Gift Card to a local restaurant.

Mayor Kacky adjourned the meeting at 8:46 PM

Signed

Debi Sandlin

Debi Sandlin, Interim Town Manager